

August 10th, 2025

9th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 8
Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 3:9-17 (Epistle)

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

Matthew 14:22-34 (Gospel)

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

Many Years!

anniversaries

7th - Gary & Georgianna Glover
10th - Robert & Tatiana Boyd
13th - Trey & Lauren Nelson
17th - Ken & Lore Denson
27th - Logan & Abigail Bourg
31st - Dave & Carrie Guy
31st - Rodney & Kelly Glover

birthdays

4th - Taytam Robinson
5th - Kelly Glover
7th - Emmary Britton
7th - Mat. Lindsey Osburn
11th - Sheila Mikita
13th - Denise Mikita
15th - Debbie Molner
16th - Kade Pyatt
17th - Daniel Tipton
17th - Scott Mikita
18th - Juston Scott
23rd - Joey Gdovin
28th - Ernie Mikita

Services

August 14th Vespers
— Thursday 6:30p

August 15th Dormition Liturgy
— Friday 8:00a

August 16th Vespers
— Saturday 6:00p

August 17th Divine Liturgy
— Sunday 9:30a

A Reflection on the Transfiguration

As we continue in the joy of the Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we are invited to linger in the radiance of this holy mystery. On the holy mountain, as the Gospel recounts (Matthew 17:1-9), Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and there, before their eyes, He was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light. Moses and Elijah appeared, speaking with Him, and the voice of the Father thundered from the cloud, proclaiming, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

This moment, dear brothers and sisters, is not merely a historical event but a revelation of eternal truth. The Transfiguration shows us the divine glory of Christ, the Son of God, who is both fully God and fully man. It is a glimpse of the Kingdom, a foretaste of the resurrection, and a promise of what awaits those who follow Him. Yet, as we bask in the light of this Afterfeast, we must also contemplate its deeper meaning: the path to beholding the face of God leads through the mystery of the Cross and the tomb.

The Transfiguration reveals not something added to Christ, but what He always was by nature—now made visible to the disciples as they were able to bear it. Our Lord, in His love for us, descended from the heights of divine glory to embrace our humanity, to suffer, and to die. The radiant light on Tabor points forward to the darkness of Golgotha, for it is through His death and resurrection that the way to eternal life is opened. As St. Paul reminds us, "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22). Christ's Transfiguration is a promise, but it is also a call to take up our cross, to die to sin, and to rise with Him.

To look upon the face of God, as the disciples longed to do, we must pass through the gateway of death—not merely the death of the body, but the daily death to self, to pride, to worldly attachments. The Transfiguration teaches us that true glory is not found in fleeting pleasures or earthly power, but in surrendering ourselves to God's will, as Christ did. Just as He descended the mountain to face His passion, we too must descend into the struggles of this life, trusting that God's grace will transform our suffering into resurrection.

St. John Chrysostom, wrote that the Transfiguration was given to strengthen the disciples for the trials ahead. So too, it strengthens us in this Afterfeast. When we face the shadow of death—whether physical or spiritual—we are not abandoned. The light of Christ shines in the darkness, guiding us toward the eternal day where we shall behold the face of God. St. Gregory Palamas reminds us, the light of Tabor is a foretaste of the divine energies that God shares with us, transforming us into partakers of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

Dear friends, as we celebrate this Afterfeast, let us ascend the mountain of prayer, fasting, and repentance, that our hearts may be purified to receive this divine light. Let us not fear the path through death, for Christ has trampled it down by His own death. As we gaze upon the Transfigured Lord, let us listen to the Father's command: "Listen to Him." By following Christ through the Cross, we are led to the resurrection, where we shall see God face to face, radiant in His eternal glory.

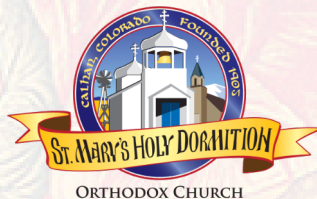
May the Mother of God, who pondered these mysteries in her heart, intercede for us, and may the Holy Trinity guide us all to the light of Tabor, now and forever. Amen.

Troparion | Tone 7

You were Transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Your glory to Your disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Your everlasting Light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to You!

Kontakion | Tone 7

On the Mountain You were Transfigured, O Christ God, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold You crucified, they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world, that You are truly the Radiance of the Father!



Prayer List

living

Met. Tikhon, Abp. Benjamin, Archim. Vasily, Fr. Andreas, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Litsa, Lillian, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Jill, Beverly, Lily with child, Infant Dominic, Tayla with child, Joseph, Alisha with child, Jackie, Amber with child, Anna with child, Joan, Trisha, Stella, Lee, Carol, Ethan, infant AdaLynn, Nauvlet, Leilah, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, McKenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Ashton, infant Sophie, Jeanie, Jetlyn, Lauren, Bob, Taylee with child, Georgianna, Clint, Murl, Carolyn, Millie, Earnie, child Charlotte, Cathy, Michael

Those who are confined: Ethen, Casey, Basil, Mark, Hannah, Theodore

departed

Brian Molner, Avier Cruz, Juliana Cecil, Carl Finney, Fr. Thomas

Commemorations

Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Lawrence of Rome, Hieromartyr Sixtus, Bishop of Rome, and Martyrs Felicissimus and Agapitus, Deacons (258). Blessed Lawrence, Fool-for-Christ, at Kaluga (1515).

St. Mary's Youth

Fr. George would like to meet with the parish youth and parents of youth, following liturgy on August 17th to discuss scheduling youth activities for the remainder of the year.

Parish Annual Mtg.

St. Mary's annual meeting will be held on August 24th following liturgy. You must be a parish member to vote in this meeting, please plan on attending and making your voice heard.

Coffee Hour

Today's Coffee Hour will be provided by Jeanie Mikita. Please join us in the hall across the street for a time of fellowship and a light meal. If you would like to sign up to sponsor a coffee hour, please use the form in the parish hall to select a date and sign up.

Coffee Hour Schedule:

August 17th — provided by Vickie, Debbie and Sharon

August 24th — Potluck

August 31st — Terrie and Millie

September 7th — Available

September 14th — Available